

Appl No. 09/618,235  
Amdt. Dated May 5, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of 01/05/2004  
Customer No. 27752

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 09/618,235  
Applicant(s) : D. N. Rubingh et al.  
Filed : July 18, 2000  
Title : PROTEASE CONJUGATES HAVING STERICALLY  
PROTECTED EPITOPE REGIONS  
TC/A.U. : 1652  
Examiner : W.W. Moore  
Conf. No. : 8554  
Docket No. : 7670  
Customer No. 27752

OFFICIAL

**RESPONSE TO NONFINAL REJECTION**

Commissioner of Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of January 5, 2004, the time for response being extended by one month, pursuant to the fee charged to the Assignee's Deposit Account in the papers submitted herewith, please consider the following remarks and reconsider the application.

Remarks/Response to Office Action begin on page 5 of this paper.